

Serial No.: 10/733,060

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This application has been reconsidered carefully in light of the Office Action dated as mailed on 23 June 2005. A careful reconsideration of the application by the Examiner in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

5                    This response is timely filed as it is filed within the one (1) month shortened statutory period for response to the outstanding Office Action.

                    No additional claim fee is believed due as a result of this Amendment because neither the total number of pending claims nor the number of pending independent claims is believed to exceed the total number and the number of  
10                   independent claims, respectively, for which fees have previously been paid. If, however, it is determined that such a fee is properly due as a result of this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of such fees or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, to Deposit Account 19-3550.

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**Amendment to the Claims**

By the above, claims 7 and 17 have been rewritten to correct the respective dependencies thereof. Review of the application in connection with the preparation of this response made apparent the desirability for such correction.

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Claims 1-28 remain in the application.

### **Election/Restrictions**

The application has been alleged to contain claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- I. Species A directed to FIGS. 1-4 and
- II. Species B directed to FIGS. 5 and 6.

The Action has required, under 35 U.S.C. 121, the election of a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Action further states that currently at least the independent claims appear generic.

The invention of Species A, represented by FIGS. 1-4, is elected. Claims readable on the elected species include claims 1-28. In addition, at least claims 1-6, 8-16 and 18-24 are believed to be generic.

### **Conclusion**

It is believed that the above elections are properly responsive to the requirements contained in the Action and that the application is in condition for substantive examination. Should the Examiner detect any issue or have any question

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which might be resolved via a telephone discussion, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the (847) 490-1400, in an effort to expedite examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick C. Kottis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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